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Imagery analysis report

Iraq/Iran Military Summary

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IRAQ/IRAN MILITARY SUMMARY

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1. (S/D) This report summarizes imagery-derived intelligence on Iraqi and Iranian military activity from [REDACTED]. The report discusses deployed ground forces along the Iraq/Iran border, rear area garrison units, airfields, naval bases, and oil refineries (Figure 1). Additional reports will be issued as the situation changes. 25X1

OVERVIEW

2. (S/D) As of [REDACTED] ground force activity relating to the continuing hostilities was observed along the southern Iraq/Iran border and in Iraqi and Iranian rear garrison areas. Military activity was also observed at one Iraqi airfield, 13 Iranian airfields, one Iraqi naval base, two Iranian naval bases, and at the POL facilities in the Al Basrah, Abadan, and Khark Island areas. 25X1

3. (S/D) The most significant ground force activity observed was major elements of an Iraqi armor brigade and a mechanized infantry brigade engaged in combat with Iranian ground forces on the Iranian side of the border in the area east of Al Amarah. The size of the Iranian force could not be determined because of partial coverage.

4. (S/D) Activity in Iraqi rear garrison areas included a SCUD tactical SSM warhead loading operation at Taji, the departure of a tank and artillery battalion from Tikrit, and the deployment of elements of an armor brigade around the Palace and Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Baghdad. Four Iranian garrison areas were imaged; however, there was evidence of a decrease in equipment at only two. Seven Iranian airfields had been damaged by Iraqi airstrikes, with damage ranging from light to heavy. Three additional Iranian airfields were imaged with no evidence of bomb damage. One Iraqi naval base was partially imaged and one Iranian naval base was imaged with no significant activity observed. An oil refinery in the Al Basrah area of Iraq was observed on fire as the result of a probable air strike. Similarly, a POL terminal at Khark Island, Iran, was also observed on fire. The refinery at Abadan was imaged, but smoke and haze precluded observation of battle damage.

GROUND FORCE ACTIVITY**Iraq/Iran Border**

5. (S/D) In the area east of Al Amarah, Iraqi forces had crossed the border, with the Iranian force having withdrawn into the foothills of the Zagros Mountains on [REDACTED]. The Iraqi force in the area consists of elements of five tank battalions, four mechanized infantry battalions-plus, and three artillery battalions (Figure 2). Iraqi forces continued their advance toward Dezful on [REDACTED]. 25X1
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6. (S/D) The Iraqi force consisted of at least 124 tanks, 105 armored personnel carriers (APCs), four self-propelled (SP) guns, six BM-21 multiple rocket launchers (MRLs), three SA-6 SAM battalions, and 54 field guns. Additionally, ten destroyed armored vehicles were adjacent to an Iranian border security post, and numerous artillery impact craters were seen throughout the battle area (Figure 3). The Iranian force consisted of 24 tanks, eight APCs, and four 155mm M-109 SP guns.

7. (S/D) Along the Shatt Al Arab, no ground force activity was observed on partial coverage of [REDACTED]. Heavy smoke precluded detailed analysis of the area around Al Basrah. However, on [REDACTED] on the Iranian side, at least eight smoke/dust clouds were seen at Khorramshahr Barracks North [REDACTED] indicating that this barracks was under attack. The Iraqis claim in the open press to have surrounded this area as well as the Abadan area. 25X1
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Iraq Rear Areas

8. (S/D) In the Baghdad area, a SCUD tactical SSM unit was involved in missile loading, warhead mating, and airframe loading operations on [REDACTED] at Baghdad SAM Training Area Taji (BE [REDACTED]). Also elements of the Republican Guard Brigade were deployed around the Palace and Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Baghdad on [REDACTED]. 25X1
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9. (S/D) In the Tikrit area, major elements of a third tank battalion and one 130mm field gun battalion had departed the garrison at Tikrit Barracks Division And Brigade Headquarters Albu Ali (BE [REDACTED]). 25X1

Iran Rear Areas

10. (S/D) In the Dezful area, major elements of the armor brigade at Dezful Barracks and Brigade Headquarters [REDACTED] remained in garrison on [REDACTED]. At least 55 tanks, 30 APCs, seven SP guns, and 100 trucks were dispersed throughout the installation. 25X1.1

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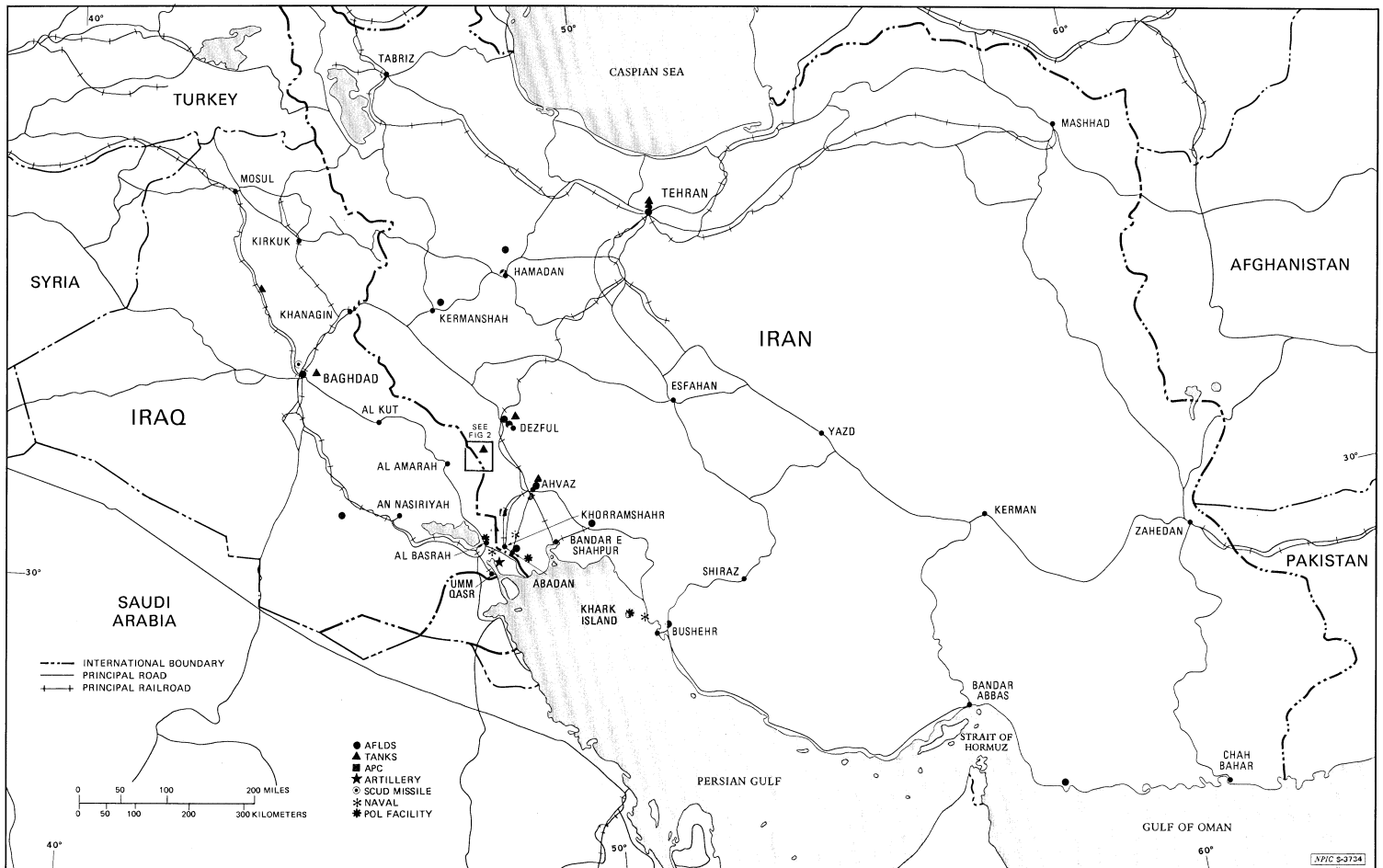


FIGURE 1. IRAQ/IRAN MILITARY ACTIVITY

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18. (S/D) In the Hamadan area, a cluster of four bomb craters (all of which were undergoing repair) was at the east end of the runway Hamadan Civil Airfield [] Three additional craters were at the west end of the runway. The runway was inoperable, and no aircraft were present. Combat damage was observed at Shahrokhi AB Airfield [] The northwest/southeast runway had two craters, and the northwest/southeast parallel runway, which has been under construction, also had craters. Four additional craters were in the support area at the airfield. Neither of the primary runways were operational. However, the airfield was still being used for combat operations. Aircraft were using northwest/southeast parallel taxiway as a runway; one F-4 with a drag chute deployed was observed landing. A total of 13 F-4 and two F-5 were observed on partial coverage. Almost all of these fighters were connected to auxiliary power units. 25X1
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19. (S/D) At Tabriz Airfield [] one small repair hangar had been destroyed, and one maintenance support building had sustained extensive structural damage on [] Additionally, one large hangar had structural/roof damage and at least ten support buildings had roof damage. Two craters at the runway intersection and six craters on parallel taxiways had been repaired. Two AB-214 were dispersed approximately 1 nautical mile (nm) north of the airfield at 38-08-54N 064-14-36E. 25X1
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20. (S/D) Repair and cleanup operations were apparent at Tehran/Mehrabad International Airfield (BE [] The debris and three vehicles observed near the center of northern east/west runway on [] had been removed, and both runways appeared to be operational on [] Additionally, debris which was observed next to a hangar on [] has been confirmed as a destroyed C-130. Airfield personnel were in the process of cleaning up the wreckage of this aircraft. No additional bomb damage has been observed at the airfield since [] Combat aircraft present included 29 F-4 (seven of which were in the aircraft repair area and probably not operational), two F-4 fuselages, two 747 tankers, eight 707 tankers, 16 C-130, one C-130 fuselage, five CH-47, and 18 F-5. Seven of the F-5 had been moved to the northeast dispersal area where the F-4 are normally parked. No additional aircraft had been similarly dispersed. One F-4 was being fueled, and at least 16 F-4 and six F-5 were connected to auxiliary power units. The six civilian aircraft parked in the civilian parking area of the airfield on [] had departed by [] only Iran Air aircraft remained. According to press reports, Iran announced that the airspace was closed on [] Only one runway, 13L/31R, at Bushehr Airfield [] appeared to be operational on [] Cratering was observed in the center of runway 13/31L near northwest crossover link. Damage was observed at the southeast high-speed turnoff on runway 31R/13L. Additionally, craters were alongside the runways. One F-4 was being towed along a taxiway extending to the aircraft dispersal area, and two light, twin-engine aircraft were at the civilian terminal. No other aircraft were observed. Two POL tank trucks were observed in the aircraft dispersal area; one of the trucks appeared to be coming out of a hangar. 25X1
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21. (S/D) The runway at Jask Airfield [] remained blocked with vehicles on [] No evidence of hostilities was observed. 25X1
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NAVAL ACTIVITY**Iraq**

22. (S/D) The majority of combatants at Al Basrah Naval Base [] on the Shatt Al Arab were moved away from the pier area into the open river between [] Naval order-of-battle observed in the river on [] included three Osa missile attack boats (PTGs), two SO-1 small submarine chasers, two probable river/roadstead patrol boats (PBRs), two Polnochny medium landing ships, one T-43, and one Split-B AX training ship. The only vessels remaining at the pier area were three P-6 motor torpedo boats and two Yevgenya inshore minesweepers. A floating drydock observed afloat on [] was observed flooded on [] 25X1
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Iran

23. (S/D) One MK-III patrol boat (PB), and three medium craft landing ships (LCMs) remained at the quay of Khorramshahr Naval Base Repair and Storage Facility [] This was a decrease of one MK-III PB and two PBRs since [] 25X1
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24. (S/D) At Bushehr Naval Base [] one La Combattante IIB (Kamen) PTG had departed between [] The remaining six La Combattante II B PTGs and seven MK III PBs had been dispersed along the piers. 25X1
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OTHER ACTIVITY**Iraq**

25. (S/D) The Al Basrah Petroleum Refinery and storage Muftiyah [] was apparently bombed on [] (Figure 7). At least one large vertical POL tank was ruptured. The resulting fire and smoke limited analysis of the central sector of Al Basrah. Another air strike may have occurred at Shuaybah Petroleum Storage [] The facility was not imaged, but smoke drifting eastward from that area was obscuring the southern Al Basrah area on [] 25X1
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26. (S/D) Heavy smoke and haze obscured the Abadan Petroleum Refinery NIOC [] 25X1
on [] No damage was identifiable in the nonobscured areas. One flare tower was operating. 25X1
However, open press has reported that the refinery was damaged and no longer operating.

27. (S/D) At Jazireh Ye Khark POL TML [] two medium-sized 25X1
POL storage tanks were destroyed. One of the tanks was still in flames. One gas burn-off tower had been
toppled and was also burning. No other damage was observed on [] 25X1

REFERENCES**IMAGERY**

(S/D) All applicable satellite imagery acquired from [] was used in the preparation of this 25X1
report.

(S) Comments and queries regarding this report are welcome. They may be directed to [] 25X1
Third World Forces Division, Imagery Exploitation Group, NPIC, [] 25X1

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